



How to Help Those Without Family Through the Holidays

Looking for a way to give back this holiday season? Consider donating to programs that benefit patients of the Utah State Hospital and wards of the state who have no family and are in need of personal care supplies.

The Forgotten Patient Christmas Project: The Utah State Hospital

What it is:

The Forgotten Patients Christmas Project provides Christmas gifts to State Hospital patients who are alone and would otherwise not receive anything due to a lack of family or because of other difficult circumstances.

How you can help:

You can help by volunteering as a sponsor of a patient. You will receive an information sheet to select certain items you would like to purchase and give to the patient. Please clarify with a State Hospital professional on which items may not be good gifts to give. The gifts are wrapped, labeled and delivered to the Hospital, where patients open them on Christmas morning. If you would like to help, but are unable to sponsor a patient, cash donations are also accepted.

Contact:

Learn more at www.ush.utah.gov/forgotten_patient.html or volunteer by contacting Shawna Peterson at **801-344-4254** or speterson@utah.gov.

Donations for Individuals Served by the Office of Public Guardian

What it is:

The Utah Office of Public Guardian is a state agency that provides guardianship and services to adults who are unable to make basic life decisions for themselves and have no other family to care for them. Each year around the holidays, many individuals OPG serves are in need of items like clothing, bedding and personal care supplies.

How you can help:

You can help by donating cash or a gift card that help to purchase needed items and ensure that all individuals receive a gift for Christmas. Send checks or gift cards to:

Office of Public Guardian
195 N. 1950 W.
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Contact:

If you have questions, please email utahopg@utah.gov or call **(801) 538-8255**.